

A TRUE

NARRATIVE

OF THE

CONFESSION

AND

EXECUTION

Of the three Prisoners at

TYBURN

On Fryday the 20th of this Instant July

Viz. Capt. Thomas Walcot, John Rouse, William Hone.
All three Drawn, Hang'd, and Quarter'd, for High
Treason, against his Majesty, and conspiring the Death
of the Duke of York.

ON Friday the 20th of July 1683, The three Traytors
William Hone, Thomas Walcot, and John Rouse, were,
in order to their Condemnation dravyn upon Hurdles
to the place of Execution, to receive the punishments
order'd for them, for their Hellish Conspiracy. Captain *Walcot*
vvho vvvas of a sturdy and resolute Temper, seem'd not to be con-
cerned at, or troubled for his most dismal undertaking, or Diabo-
lical Stratagem, pointed at by the finger of Heaven, and Odious to
the Eyes of the vvhole Earth, but rather obstinately, and obdu-
rately seem'd to justifie himself in this bloody design' though nei-
ther he, nor any of the other tvo can deny but that they vvvere
concerned in the Plot, though not so deeply as they vvvere ac-
cused. But take an Account of their tryals first.

It is strange to consider the impudence of some dissatisfied persons, who cannot be contented to live under the civil Government of a Gracious Prince: But on the contrary Hellishly and Maliciously contrive and conspire the Death of their Sovereign, the Ruin of the Nation, and without Gods great Mercy their own everlasting overthrow. How many hundreds were there, that at first would hardly believe that there was a Plot, but now I hope they will believe what these persons we have to insist upon have owned and confessed: and it cannot be imagined that they would acknowledge more against themselves than the truth. But great pitty it is, that Man the very Image of God himself, should so degenerate from all other Creatures, as to study the overthrow of his fellow Creature but much more of a Princely Monarch; ordained and anointed to rule over us by the especial providence of the Almighty, and not only against his Gracious Majesty was this accursed Plot contrived, but also against his Royal Brother *James Duke of York*, and indeed the whole Land, as it would have proved, had not the everlasting love of the everliving God miraculously prevented the bloody designs of the intended Regicides by the happy discovery of this unparalleled cruelty designed.

And now to begin with my Lord *Russel*, who on *Friday* the 13th Instant, 1683. was condemned to die, for having a Confederacy in this Conspiracy; but he only owned that he was several times with the Conspirators, who were called by the name of the Council, but was not of the Consult.

But Colonel *Rumsey*, swore that the Lord *Shaftsbury* told him that the Lord *Russel* was one of the Consult, which with other Evidence caused him to be condemned. And upon *Saturday* the 14th. of *July* was conveyed from *Newgate* to the place of Execution, and during his time after his Condemnation, he Mourned exceedingly, continually alledging that he was drawn in by that spawn of policy *Shaftsbury*, who was without all doubt the Father and Contriver of this Damnable Plot, to the great loss and ruin of so many mens lives as are likely to suffer for, and through his accursed Treason.

My Lord was reported to be a person Excellently qualified and of wonderfull parts, but too much adhering to the Seditious contrivances of those Machivilians, whose policy was only used to bad ends and purposes, as in the conclusion it will prove to be to them.

My Lord doth not seem to disown his Charge, but much laments that he should be so ensnared. And great pitty it is that a gentleman of his descent; and so adorned by the gifts of nature should bring himselfe to such an untimely end, by the fabulous pretences of a Politick Statesman: whose Aim without doubt

was

was, by the ruin and extirpation of the *Royal Family*, to advance himself and his Posterity, by bringing in schismaticall Laws and customs, answerable to the maggots of his never satisfied humours. But the great God of heaven, who hath at several times and by several means, apparently manifested, his great and unspeakable kindness to our Sovereign, hath yet once more put a period to, and utterly confounded the wicked contrivances, and bloody stratagems of these wicked wretches, whose endeavours were to compass, what heaven in mercy hath forbid.

Thomas Walcot, John Rouse, and William Hone, being all Indicted for High Treason, as conspiring and contriving the death of his most sacred Majesty, and his Royal brother, and endeavouring to Levy War, and by force of Arms to subvert the government of the Nation, by involving the subjects thereof into a labyrinth of insupportable trouble. could make but slender defence for themselves. *William Hone*, aforementioned, was very desirous to make his tryal, by confessing to part of the Indictment, but my Lord Chief Justice *Pemberton*, answered that what he had there confessed was sufficient to convict him, but yet for popular satisfaction he should take a fair tryal in the face of his Country, and accordingly so it was, so that in a litle time he was brought in guilty of High Treason, and so was remanded to Prison from whence he came with a conscience as full of guilt as the world full of wonder at the Audacities of such Vilains.

Captain *Walcot*, he was charged with High Treason, also he could not flatly deny his charge, but owned that he was in the conspiracy, yet denied that he was any way concerned in the Assassinating his Majesties Royal person, but did acknowledge that he was engaged to fight the Guard, which acknowledgment was sufficient to do his business; and the Court thereupon brought him in Guilty.

The next was *John Rouse*, against whom one *Lee* swore that he had several times contrived the Death of the King, and that an Army was to be raised, for the carrying on their design of subversion, and that he was to be Pay-Master thereof.

All which was strongly opposed by *Rouse*, and on the contrary he alledged that such proposals were moved to him by *Lee*, but he flatly deny'd them.

One *Corbin* made Oath, that in 1681. *Rouse* told him that the King had forfeited his Crowne, and Mr. *William Richardson* swore that when he went to take *Rouse*, he disowned his Name, and called himself by the name of *Johnson*.

All which being sum'd up, the Jury without going out of Court brought him in Guilty:

But when they came to the place of Execution, where they were to part with their fainting Breath, Oh! what Consternation appeared in their Countenances, what Horrour seemed to surprize them, and what dread afflicted their drooping Souls; I leave it to the Judgment of those, who ever looked Grim Death in the Face? how did they lament their ill deeds? how did they recal their mispent time? What an Ocean of Calamities, did at that minute encompass them, and even drovyn them in Seas of sorrow. But for perfect Testimony of their unfeigned repentance, they gave good advice, and Christian admonition, to all persons of what Age or Sex soever, to abominate such evil designs, and wholly to depend upon God for a timely deliverance from any thing that shall trouble them, and not go indirectly, to wrap themselves into endless troubles, by seeking their own Ruins, by unadvised, and inconsiderate means. Thus did they for a short space signifie their sorrows, and lament their deplorable ends.

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